

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/016644

Box No. I

Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
- ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))
- ☐ publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)
- ☐ international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the **elements** of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:
- ☐ the international application as originally filed/furnished
- ☒ the description:
- pages 1, 2 _____ as originally filed/furnished
- pages* 3, 4, 4/1, 5, 5/1, 6, 7, 7/1, _____
- pages* 8-10, 10/1 received by this Authority on 29.08.2005
- pages* 11, 11/1, 12, 13, 13/1, 14, 15, _____
- pages* 15/1 received by this Authority on 29.08.2005
- ☒ the claims:
- nos. 4, 6, 10, 12 _____ as originally filed/furnished
- nos.* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
- nos.* 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 1, 11 received by this Authority on 29.07.2005
- nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the drawings:
- sheets Fig. 1-12 _____ as originally filed/furnished
- sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.
3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____
4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

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Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement		
1.	Statement		
	Novelty (N)	Claims <u>1-12</u>	YES
		Claims _____	NO
	Inventive step (IS)	Claims <u>1-12</u>	YES
		Claims _____	NO
	Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims <u>1-12</u>	YES
		Claims _____	NO
2.	Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)		
	<p>Documents cited in the written opinion of the international search authority:</p> <p>Document 1: JP 10-105258 A</p> <p>Document 2: JP 2003-185692 A</p> <p>Document 3: JP 2002-251301 A</p> <p>Document 4: JP 8-79901 A</p> <p>Fig. 1 of document 1, which is most closely related to the invention of this application, sets forth a reference voltage generating circuit, wherein a capacitor C and a resistor R12 are connected to the same power supply voltage VSS, the other end of the resistor R12 is connected to one input node of a comparator 40, and the other end of the capacitor C is connected to the other input node of the comparator 4.</p> <p>However, the invention set forth in claim 1 is a semiconductor device which activates an output signal indicating the comparison results when a voltage difference is generated between the reference voltage inputted to the comparator and the output at the other end of the capacitive element connected to the power supply voltage.</p> <p>That is to say, the comparator of the invention set</p>		

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Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
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forth in claim 1 of this application and the comparator set forth in document 1 have different effects of operation, and the form of connection to the power supply voltage and capacitor are different.

Documents 2 to 4 neither disclose nor suggest the configuration of the invention set forth in claim 1.

Therefore the invention set forth in claim 1 is novel and involves an inventive step.

In addition, the invention set forth in claim 7 is provided with the configuration of the invention set forth in claim 1 of this application, and delimits a second comparator, and is therefore novel and involves an inventive step.

The invention set forth in claims 2 to 6 refers back to and further delimits claim 1, and the invention set forth in claims 8 to 12 refers back to and further delimits claim 7, and similarly to claims 1 and 7, are novel and involve an inventive step.

The invention set forth in claims 1 to 12 is clearly industrially applicable.